

Texas Representative Roberto R. Alonzo's

Capitol Report



Report: *Economic Issues for Women In Texas*

Earlier this month, the Texas Women's Foundation (TWF) of Dallas launched its first-of-its kind statewide comprehensive report entitled, "*Economic Issues for Women in Texas, 2014.*" In the report, they highlight some of the most fascinating and remarkable study of the economics of being female in Texas. TWF which was established in 2013 is the research and advocacy arm of the Dallas Women's Foundation. The report includes our biennial studies of the Texas state budget through a gender lens. Through this new study, conducted by the **Center for Public Policy Priorities (CPPP)**, a highly respected think tank organization headquartered in Austin, the report provides a sharply defined look at the policies and practices at the state level, and at the community level in nine metro areas across Texas, that affect a woman's ability to be economically stable and secure. Additionally, it examines the building blocks of economic security in our state—those that impact a family budget—and then drills down to highlight the differences and commonalities across nine Texas metro areas: Amarillo, Austin, Dallas, El Paso, Fort Worth, Houston, McAllen, San Antonio and Tyler.

The TWF believes that we, as a state, Texas stands at a turning point. Texas' prevailing economic narrative has been that if you get a job, everything will be fine. And, good jobs are available to all who want them. Fortunately, what local communities have begun to realize is that a job is necessary but not sufficient to move people out of poverty for either the long-term or short-term. There must be a proactive approach to combating poverty and building economic security.

This report identifies the issues, as well as the key building blocks and proactive approaches, that are especially important for Texas families headed by women. In Texas, 30 percent of all households are female-headed, yet they represent 53 percent of households living in poverty.

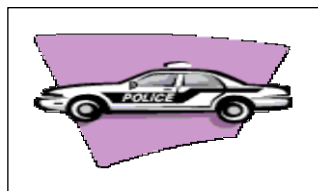
Through this report, we can establish a common understanding of the issues and their impact, gain a common language for expressing the challenges and opportunities that Texas women face, and share this information and a plan of action with community leaders, elected and appointed officials, nonprofit organizations, donors and partners in each metro area and across the state. We believe that by defining what women and their families need to move from surviving to thriving, we can collectively identify and magnify areas for innovation and investment.

For a complete copy of the 30-page report, visit the link at:

http://www.dallaswomensfdn.org/file/texas-womens-foundation/Economic-Issues-for-Women-in-Texas_Texas-Womens-Foundation_May-2014.pdf



New College Campus Safety Mobile "App"



The Texas Association Against Sexual Assault (TAASA) has recently launched Texas Safety University (TX Safety U), a free app available on iOS and Android. Through this app, students, faculty, staff, and other campus members of campus communities can quickly access customized contact information, including campus and community resources available to those who have experienced sexual assault, dating, violence, domestic violence or stalking. As is apparent from the study - "Sexual Assault on College Campuses: Perceptions and Approaches of Campus Law Enforcement Officers," (<http://www.crimevictimsinstitute.org/publications>), this is a necessary and welcome resource to assist students and others in finding the resources they need. The TX Safety U app is available to download on Google Play and iTunes and may be accessed at:

www.taasa.org/txsafetyu/